Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for applying a material from a an adhesive-backed roll to a surface, comprising:

a frame for rotatably supporting a the adhesive backed roll of material, the frame having an opening though which material may be dispensed from the adhesive-backed roll;

a roller carried by the frame adjacent the opening for pressing material dispensed through the opening from a the adhesive backed roll ~~rotatably supported by the frame~~ against a surface;

a brake supported by the frame for applying a braking force to a at least one side of the adhesive backed roll of material ~~rotatably supported by the frame~~, thereby preventing material from being dispensed through the opening from the roll;

an elongated ~~tubular~~ handle connected to the frame; and

an actuator for remotely actuating the brake, the actuator comprising

a lever pivotally connected to the elongated handle opposite the frame such that the lever is separated from the brake by a distance of approximately three feet or more, and

a linkage connecting the lever to the brake, the linkage including an elongated link connected to the lever and extending through at least a substantial portion of the elongated handle.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a cutting member having a cutting edge, the cutting member being carried by the frame adjacent the opening for cutting material dispensed through the opening from a roll rotatably supported by the frame.

3. (original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the cutting member is pivotally mounted to the frame for rotation of the cutting edge into engagement with material dispensed through the opening from a roll rotatably supported by the frame.

4. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a shaft carried by the frame for rotatably supporting a roll of material.

5. (original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the frame includes substantially parallel side walls defining a space within which the shaft and roll are carried.

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the space defines a pathway for material to move from a roll rotatably supported by the frame to the opening for dispensing.

7. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the frame includes a lip adjacent the opening that is yieldably biased towards the roller for assuring at least a portion of material fed to the opening from a roll rotatably supported by the frame remains at the opening.

8. (canceled)

9. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the elongated handle is connected to the frame at one of its ends and is connected to the actuator adjacent another of its ends.

10. (canceled)

11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the elongated link comprises one of a rod, a bar, and a cable.

13. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the actuator is also useful for remotely rotating the cutting edge of the cutting member into engagement with material dispensed through the opening from a roll rotatably supported by the frame.

14. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the actuator linkage connects the lever to the brake and the cutting member.

15. (currently amended) An apparatus for applying tape from an adhesive-backed roll to a seam between abutting sheets of wall board, comprising:

a frame for rotatably supporting ~~a~~ the adhesive-backed roll ~~of tape~~, the frame having an opening though which tape may be dispensed from the adhesive-backed roll, but being incapable of conveying wall board compound;

a roller carried by the frame adjacent the opening for pressing tape dispensed through the opening from ~~a~~ the adhesive-backed roll ~~rotatably supported by the frame~~ against a seam between abutting sheets of wall board;

a brake supported by the frame for applying a braking force to ~~a~~ at least one side of the adhesive-backed roll ~~of tape rotatably supported by the frame~~, thereby preventing tape from being dispensed through the opening from the roll;

an elongated handle connected to the frame; and

an actuator connected to the elongated handle for remotely actuating the brake, the actuator being separated from the brake by a distance of approximately three feet or more.

16. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a cutting member having a cutting edge, the cutting member being carried by the frame adjacent the opening for cutting tape dispensed through the opening from a roll rotatably supported by the frame.

17. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the cutting member is pivotally mounted to the frame for rotation of the cutting edge into engagement with tape dispensed through the opening from a roll rotatably supported by the frame.

18. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a shaft carried by the frame for rotatably supporting a roll of tape.

19. (original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the frame includes substantially parallel side walls defining a space within which the shaft and roll are carried.

20. (original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the space defines a pathway for tape to move from a roll rotatably supported by the frame to the opening for dispensing.

21. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the frame includes a lip adjacent the opening that is yieldably biased towards the roller for assuring at least a portion of tape fed to the opening from a roll rotatably supported by the frame remains at the opening.

22. (cancelled)

23. (canceled)

24. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the actuator comprises a lever pivotally connected to the elongated handle opposite the frame and a linkage connecting the lever to the brake.

25. (original) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the elongated handle is tubular and the linkage includes an elongated link connected to the lever and extending through at least a substantial portion of the elongated handle.

26. (original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the elongated link comprises one of a rod, a bar, and a cable.

27. (original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the actuator is also connected to the elongated handle for remotely rotating the cutting edge into engagement with tape dispensed through the opening from a roll rotatably supported by the frame.

28. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the actuator comprises a lever pivotally connected to the elongated handle opposite the frame and a linkage connecting the lever to the brake and the cutting member.

29. (currently amended) A method of applying material from an adhesive-backed roll to a surface, comprising the steps of:

loading a~~the adhesive-backed~~ roll ~~of material~~ into a dispensing frame mounted on an elongated

tubular handle and having an opening and a pressing roller;

feeding an end of the material from the adhesive-backed roll through the frame opening;

using the handle and the pressing roller, pressing the end of the material against the surface;

using the handle and pressing roller, moving the frame along the surface to dispense the material from the adhesive-backed roll through the frame opening and apply the material over the surface;

using an elongated link that extends through at least a substantial portion of the handle for remotely applying a braking force to ~~the material~~ at least one side of the adhesive-backed roll from a location on the handle approximately three feet or more from the frame to prevent material from being dispensed from the roll.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising the step of using the elongated link for remotely applying a cutting force to the material adjacent the opening to separate the material applied to the surface from the frame.

31. (original) The method of claim 29, wherein the material is tape and the surface is a seam between abutting sheets of wall board.